

ITEM# \_\_\_\_\_

PREPARED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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**RESOLUTION REQUESTING ALL CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DURING THE 2010 ELECTION CYCLE TO SIGN A PLEDGE TO WORK TO PROVIDE THE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER (THE MED) A MORE ADEQUATE LEVEL OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR UNCOMPENSATED CARE TO ENSURE ITS CONTINUED FINANCIAL VIABILITY. SPONSORED BY COMMISSIONER GEORGE FLINN.**

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**WHEREAS**, The Regional Medical Center (the MED) serves as a critical link in the provision of urgent medical care to residents in western Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, The MED has historically operated at a deficit due significantly to a disproportionately high percentage of non paying patients, (those without TennCare or commercial insurance coverage and without personal resources to cover the cost of care provided), who receive medical services at the MED; and

**WHEREAS**, The federal government uses the service levels provided for the indigent and uninsured patients treated by safety net hospitals in each state to determine levels of funding remitted to state governments in order that these funds be allocated to provide appropriate funding to these safety net hospitals; and

**WHEREAS**, Shelby County Mayor Joe Ford convened a MED Task Force to analyze and recommend a plan of action to address concerns related to the current and future provisions of critical medical services to our county, state and region; and

**WHEREAS**, The Mayor's MED Task Force has been advised that the State of Tennessee has received \$80 million to \$90 million annually for the past four years in federal funding for the uncompensated care provided at the MED, but has returned to the MED between \$30 million and \$39 million annually; and

**WHEREAS**, It is critical to the survival of the MED that the State of Tennessee provide the MED a level of federal funding for uncompensated care sufficient to ensure continued operations.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SHELBY COUNTY, TENNESSEE**, That the Shelby County Board of Commissioners hereby requests that all candidates for the office of Governor of the State of Tennessee during the 2010 election cycle sign a pledge, attached hereto as 'Exhibit A', to work to provide a more adequate level of federal funding for uncompensated care to the MED to ensure its continued financial viability.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this resolution shall be mailed to all such candidates no later than May 1, 2010.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That candidates shall be asked to return a signed copy of the pledge to the Shelby County Board of Commissioners office no later than May 30, 2010.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this resolution shall take effect from and after the date it shall have been enacted according to due process of law, public welfare requiring it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Ford, Interim County Mayor

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

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Clerk of County Commission

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_